

**Report of the Executive Director Core Services
to the Overview & Scrutiny Committee
on Wednesday 31st May 2017**

Overview & Scrutiny Committee (OSC) Work Programme 2017/18

1.0 Introduction & Background

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to outline Barnsley Council's Overview and Scrutiny arrangements and to provide information for discussion to develop the Overview and Scrutiny Committee's (OSC) work programme for 2017/18.
- 1.2 In the current climate, the need for sound effective decision making has never been more important. Elected Members who sit on Barnsley's scrutiny committees have a vital role to play as 'scrutineers', providing a valid mechanism of challenge to monitor decision making, tackle poor performance and to ensure value for money is delivered by the Council and its partners.

2.0 Barnsley's Scrutiny Arrangements

- 2.1 A recent review has been undertaken on the Council's OSC's safeguarding workstream following the work of the former Safeguarding Scrutiny Committee being subsumed into the work of the OSC. The report (Cab.3.5.2017/15) highlighted that the current arrangements are working well and therefore meetings will continue to be set aside on the OSC work programme to consider safeguarding business, however that a fluid approach will be taken to allow for timely consideration of topics. During the last Municipal Year, the private part of the OSC meetings to consider Children's Social Care performance information has been formally minuted, but in a way not to disclose exempt information under the terms of the 1972 Act. The committee will continue to consider this information in private, however the public minute regarding this part of the OSC agenda will be expanded to provide further information and transparency.
- 2.2 The OSC will continue to have three Member-led Task & Finish Groups (TFGs) which will carry out in-depth investigations. These groups will comprise of 6-8 Members from the OSC who opt to participate in these groups.
- 2.3 Area Councils have also had an increasing performance monitoring role. This has been done through performance monitoring the services and contracts that are commissioned by the Area Councils and also to, where appropriate, performance monitor area-based and borough-wide services provided locally.

3.0 Work Programme Development Considerations

- 3.1 It is important that the Scrutiny work programme is forward planned to identify key issues requiring scrutiny, as well as being reactive and allowing for the work programme to evolve should issues require scrutiny at short-notice. Over the next municipal year, 12 OSC meetings will be held, 6 of which will have a safeguarding topic focus. The scrutiny work programme will be updated on an ongoing basis to allow for the timely discussion of topics. Each agenda usually contains 1 or 2 topics for consideration, the scope of which will be discussed in more detail as appropriate.

- 3.2 It has previously been agreed that the OSC would receive a copy of the Council's Quarterly Corporate Plan Performance Report, which contributes to the reactive work programme of the OSC by the timely identification of areas requiring scrutiny. Both internal and external providers can be invited to discuss performance issues around any areas identified by the OSC.
- 3.3 As Corporate Parenting is the responsibility of all Members, it was agreed at the meeting held on Tuesday 10th February 2015 that the Corporate Parenting Panel Annual report would be considered by the OSC on an annual basis. In addition, it is recommended that educational attainment across the Borough is discussed on an annual basis which would include specific information on Looked After Children. Also, in relation to Safeguarding, it is recommended that annually, both the Barnsley Safeguarding Adults Board (BSAB) annual report and Barnsley Safeguarding Children Board (BSCB) annual report are considered. Therefore, all these issues have been scheduled into the work programme below.
- 3.4 The table below shows the proposed OSC meetings for the 2017/18 Municipal Year:

Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC)	
Meeting Date	Topics
2017/18 Municipal Year	
Wed 31 st May 2017	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Q4 Corporate Plan Performance Report 2016/17 – Future Council Strategy Progress (& Organisation Improvement Strategy) 2. Scrutiny Work Programme 2017/18 3. Private Member Briefing – Children's Social Care (instead of 02.05.17)
Wed 21 st June 2017 (safeguarding topic focus)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. CAMHS (Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services) 12 month review 2. Private Member Briefing – Children's Social Care
Wed 12 th July 2017	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Intermediate Care – Mount Vernon Hospital 2. Corporate Parenting Panel Annual Report
Wed 13 th September 2017 (safeguarding topic focus)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Barnsley Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2016/17 2. Barnsley Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report 2016/17 3. Private Member Briefing – Children's Social Care
Wed 27 th September 2017	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2. Q1 Corporate Plan Performance Report 2017/18
Wed 18 th October 2017 (safeguarding topic focus)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. SEND (Special Education Needs & Disability) Self-Assessment & Plan 2. Private Member Briefing – Children's Social Care
Wed 29 th November 2017	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NHS Sustainability & Transformation Plan (STP) (1 year on) 2. Q2 Corporate Plan Performance Report 2017/18 – Educational achievement across the Borough as well as a specific report on Looked After Children
Wed 10 th January 2018 (safeguarding topic focus)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provision of Domiciliary Care & Support to Live at Home Service (following new contract in April

	2017) 2. Private Member Briefing – Children’s Social Care
Wed 31 st January 2018	1. 2.
Wed 28 th February 2018 (safeguarding topic focus)	1. Update on the 0-19 Service (12 months on) 2. Private Member Briefing – Children’s Social Care
Wed 28 th March 2018	1. 2. Q3 Corporate Plan Performance Report 2016/17 – Suicide Prevention
Wed 18 th April 2018 (safeguarding topic focus)	1. Adult Social Care Local Account 2017/18 2. Private Member Briefing – Children’s Social Care
2018/19 Municipal Year	
Wed 30 th May 2018	1. Q4 Corporate Plan Performance Report 2017/18 2. Scrutiny Work Programme 2018/19
Wed 20 th June 2018 (safeguarding topic focus)	1. CAMHS (Child & Adolescent Mental Health Service) (12 months on) 2. Private Member Briefing – Children’s Social Care

3.5 As highlighted previously, in addition to the Scrutiny Committees, there are 3 Task and Finish Groups (TFGs) which can undertake in-depth investigations into topics. As a result of the work of the Fly-Tipping TFG during 2015/16 an officer action group was formed to implement and further develop the action plan recommendations. The TFG continued during 2016/17 and monitored the implementation of the action plan as well as undertook the Member Actions which included contacting local MPs and Magistrates. As fly-tipping continues to be an issue further work needs to be done to sustain the fly-tipping campaign as well as undertake additional actions as referenced in the recent report to Cabinet (Cab.5.4.2017/8). Therefore it is suggested that the Fly-Tipping TFG continues during 2017/18.

3.6 The Council is making a commitment to improve its engagement with communities by helping people to get involved, to do more for each other and their local area. The Council is working with communities to create this new approach, which is set out in the Community Engagement Strategy (Cab.22.3.2017/8). This is being done by making clear exactly what the council offers and set out what support is needed from people living and working in Barnsley. This will be called the ‘Barnsley Deal’. As this work is key to the role of Members and is currently being developed, it is recommended that a TFG is engaged in this work.

3.7 The recommended topics for the Scrutiny TFGs for 2017/18 would therefore be as follows:

Scrutiny Task and Finish Groups (TFGs)
1. Fly Tipping
2. Community Engagement Strategy & The Barnsley Deal
3. To be agreed

3.8 In addition to the topics identified above, other issues / services which Members may wish to consider are listed below. These are a combination of topics which have either been suggested by Members, are highlighted in the Council’s Forward

Plan of key decisions or are issues / services which have not been covered for some time:

- Council's Asset Management
- Culture/Visitor Offer
- Safer Neighbourhood Services
- NHS Consultations/Care Quality Commission (CQC) Inspections
- Social Prescribing
- Director of Public Health (DPH) Annual Report
- Alcohol / Substance Misuse / Legal Highs
- Men's Health
- Poverty
- Highways Infrastructure
- Devolution

4.0 Today's Meeting

- 4.1 Today's meeting provides an opportunity for OSC Members to identify areas of concern which impact upon the whole Borough and input into the development of the draft work programme for 2017/18 including topics for the TFGs. This report identifies topics which Members may wish to consider; however during the meeting Members may wish to share other ideas and make recommendations as to what key topics should be covered and why during 2017/18.
- 4.2 Following discussion at the meeting, work will be undertaken to finalise and seek agreement for the work programme.

5.0 Background Papers and Useful Links:

- Review of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee Safeguarding Workstream: (Cab.3.5.2017/15):
<http://barnsleymbc.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s19783/Review%20of%20the%20Overview%20and%20Scrutiny%20Committee%20Safeguarding%20Workstream.pdf>
- Barnsley Council Forward Plan of Key Decisions – published 4th May 2017:
<http://barnsleymbc.moderngov.co.uk/documents/l148/Printed%20plan%20Forward%20Plan%20-%2028th%20April%202017.pdf?T=4>
- Information on Barnsley Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee:
<http://barnsleymbc.moderngov.co.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=224>
- Centre for Public Scrutiny website: <http://www.cfps.org.uk>

6.0 Officer Contact:

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24th May 2017